231

The pretended High Court of Justice VNBOWELLED:

Being a Caveat for

TRAYTORS,

OR,

TREASON CONDEMNED AND Truth Vindicated.

With severall Reasons presented to *Oliver Cromwell*, four days before the Massacring of his Majesty proving the sad sentence passed upon his late Sacred Majesty, the 27 of *January* 1648. unjust and contrary both to the Law of *GOD* and these Nations.

Together with his Majesties *SPEECH* to a precious Jewel then sitting as one of his Judges, though formerly a servant to His Sacred Majestie.

Never Publish'd till this day of England's *Redemption.*

London, Printed for *Thomas Hairman*, 1660.

232

The pretended High Court of Juſtice unbowelled, and their iniuſtice laid open to publck view.

THis Court called the High Court of Juſtice, was erected in 48. and the better to carry on their deſign in cutting of the moſt loyal ſubjects, they began with the Head of the People his ſacred Majeſty, in the ſcarlet dy of whoſe blood they firſt dipt their cruel hands and hardened their hearts. The manner of his Tryal was as followeth. *viz.*

The Court being erected, the Counſellours were appointed to draw up the *Charge* againſt his Majeſty, was Dr. *Doriſlaus*, Mr. *Aske*, Mr. *John Cook* Solicitor. Serj. *Danby*, Serj. at Arms. Mr. *Brougton* and Mr. *Phelps* Clerks to the Court. Col. *Humphrey* Sword-Beare:.

There were produced 35 Witneſſes who were ſworn in this pretended *Court*, to give evidence againſt the King, moſt of which were perſons of ſmall eſtimation, as a *Cobler*, a *Tyler*, a *Painter*, a *Husbandman* a *Barber*, a *Feltmaker*, a *Weaver*, a *Glover*, a *Smith &c.* not above 3 or 4 Gentlemen amongſt them.

The ſentence againſt the ſaid King January 27 1648, *which was read hy the ſaid Mr.* Braugton *aforeſaid Clerk.*

Whereas the Commons of *England* in Parliament, have appointed them an High Court of Juſtice for the Tryal of *Charles Stuart* King of *England* before whom he had been three times convented, atnd at the firſt time a *Charge* of high Treaſon, and other crimes and miſdemeanors was read in the behalf of the Kingdom of *England*, &c. as in the, and the which was read throughout. , the rails being

To which Charge, he the ſaid *Charls Stuart* was required to give his Anſwer, but he refuſed ſo to do; and ſo expreſt ſeveral paſſages at his Tryal in refuſing to anſwer. For all which Treaſons and Crimes, this Court doth adjudge, That the ſaid *Charls Stuart*, as a Tyrant, Traytor, Murtherer, and Publick enemy, ſhall be put to death, by ſevering his head from his body.

This Sentence (ſayes Bradſhaw *the Preſident) now read and publiſhed is the Act, Sentence, Judgement and Reſolution of the whole Court.* To which the Members of the Court ſtood up and aſſented to what he ſaid *by holding up their hands.*

The King offered to ſpeak, but he was inſtantly commanded to be taken away, and the Court broke up.

One thing worth obſervation is, that his Majeſty (being in the Court and) taking notice of Sir *Henry Mildmay*, ſaid, *O you are a precious Jewell*, he being formerly a ſervant to his Majeſty.

The true manner of proceeding to take off the *Kings* Head, according to the Sentence given as aforeſaid. Sir *Hadreſs Waller*, Colonel *Dean*, and Colonel *Okey*, were appointed to conſider of the Time and Place for the Execution of the King, according to his Sentence, given by the (pretended) High Court of Juſtice.

Painted Chamber, Monday *January* the 29*th* 1648. Upon Report made from the Gommittee for Conſidering of the Executing of the Judgement againſt the King, that the ſaid Committee have Reſolved, *That the open ſtreet before* Whitehal *is a fit place:* And the ſaid Committee conceive it fit, *That the King be there executed the morrow, the King having already notice thereof.*

The Court approved thereof, and ordered a Warrent to be drawn to that purpoſe, which Warrent was according drawn and agreed to, and Ordered to be ingroſſed, which was done, and ſigned and ſealed accordingly, as followeth.

At the High Court of Juſtice for the Trying and Judging of *Charls Stuart* King of *England*, *Jan.*29. 2648.

Whereas *Charls Stuart* King of *England*, is and ſtandeth convicted, Attained and Condemned of High Treaſon, and other Crimes, and Sentence on Saturday laſt was pronounced againſt him by this Court, to be put to Death, by the ſevering his head from his body, of which Sentence Execution yet remaineth to be done. Theſe are therefore [illegible]d require you, to ſee the ſaid Sentence Executed in the open [illegible]re *Whitehall* upon the morrow, being the 30. day of this inſtant

ſtant Moneth of *January*, between the hours of Ten in the morning, and Five in the afternoon of the ſame day, with full effect; and for ſo doing, This ſhall be your ſufficient Warrant: and theſe are to require all Officers and Souldiers and other the good People of this Nation of *England* to be aſſiſtant unto you in this ſervice. Given under our hands and Seals.

To *Colonel* Francis Hacker, *Colonel* Hunks, *and Lieutenant Colonel* Phray, *and to every of them.* Sealed and Subſcribed by,

John Bradſhaw Preſident. *Thomas Gray. Oliver Cromwell. Edward Whaley. John Danvers. Mich. Liveſay. John Boucher. Hen. Ireton. Tho. Maleverer. John Blackeſton. John Hutchiſon. William Goffe Tho. Pride. Henry Smith. Vincent Potter. William Conſtable. Rich. Ingoldsby. Will. Cawley. John Barkſtead. Iſaac Ewer. Va. Walton. Peter Temple. Tho. Harriſon. Joh. Hewſon. Per. Pelham. Richard Dean. Rob. Tichburn. Hump. Edwsard. Dan. Blagrave. Owen Roe. Will. Purifoye. Adrian Scroop James Templer. Aug. Garland. Edmon. Ludlow. Hen. Martin. Joh. Alured. Rob. Lilburn. Will. Say. Anthony Stapley. Gregory Norton. Tho. Chaloner. Tho. Wogan. Simon Meyne. Tho. Horton. Ioh. Jones. Ioh. Mor. Halreſs Waller. Gilbert Millington. Ch. Fleetwood. John Venn. Greg. Clement. Ioh. Downs. Tho. Waite. Tho. Scot. John Carew. Miles Corbet.*

In all Fifty eight, Ordered, *That the Scaffold on which the King is to be executed, be covered with black.*

The Warrant for executing the King being accordingly delivered to thoſe parties to whom the ſame was directed, Execution was done upon him according to the Tenour thereof about two a clock in the afternoon, of the ſaid 30. of *January* 1648.

The Fatall day of the ſaid Execution, being Tueſday January *the* 30. 1648. His Majeſty continued in Prayer all the morning, and receives the Sacrament. Juſt at ten a Clock before noon, he was conveyed on foot on foot from St. *James's* Palace to *Whitehall*, guarded by a Regiment of Foot Souldiers, part before, part behinde, with Colours flying, and Drums beating, his private guard of Partizans about him, and Dr. *Juxon* Biſhop of *London*, next to him on one ſide, and Colonel *Tomlinſon* on the other; being come to *Whitehall*, he continued in his Cabinet Chamber at his Devotions, refuſing to dine, onely about 12 a clock he eat a bit of Bread, and drank a glaſſe of Claret wine; from from thence he was conveyed into the Banqnetting houſe, and the great window inlarged, out of which he aſcends the Scaffold, the rails

being

being hung round, and the floor covered with black; His Excutioners disguised with Vizards, yet was his Majesty not affrighted: He shewed more care of the people living, then of himself dying: for looking round about upon the people, whom the thick Guards of Souldiers kept a distance off, and seeing he could not be heard by them, omitting (probably) what he purposed to have spoken to them, therefore turning to the Officers and Actors by him, he delivered himself in a short (but excellent) Speech, which being ended, he meekly went to Prayers, and after some heavenly discourse between him and the Bishop, having prepared himself, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, mildly praying to himself, he stooping down to the block as to a Prayer-deske, and most humbly bowed his generous Neck to *God*, to be cut of by the Vizarded Executioner, which was sodainly done at one blow. Thus fell King *Charls*, and thus all *Britain* with him.

The true Copy of a Letter sent by Ed. Barber *Freeman of* England *and Clothworker of* London *to Gen.* Crumwel *after his Majesty had received the sentence of Death, for the saving of his Life. Directed to the Right honorable* Oliver Crumwel *L. Gen. of the Forces raysed by the Parl. of the* Common-wealth *of* England, &c.

My Lord,

MAy it please your honour, I cannot but write these few lines unto you, concerning the Parliaments dealing with the Kings Majesty, whom although they have condemned to death, yet I hope will never put their Jndgment to execution, but look back to their former promises and Engagements, which they have made to God, his Majesty and this Nation, with their hands lift up to the most high God, that all the world should see that they intended nothing against his Majesty, but his evil Counsel, for the Liberty of the *Gospel* and the freedom of the people, and that they would make him a glorious King, &c. Now I beseech you consider the practise of *Joshua* (that glorious type of Christ) to the *Gibeonites Ioshua* 9. 14, 15, 18, 19, 20. *And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord, And* Joshua *made peace with them, and made a League with them to let them live, And the Princes of the* Congregation, *swear unto them, &c. And*

the

the children of Israel smote them not, because the Princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the Lord God of Israel; *And all the congregation murmured against the Princes, But all the Princes said unto all the congregation, We have sworn unto them by the Lord God of Israel, Now therefore we may not touch them, this will we do to them, we will even let them live, least wrath be upon us, because of the Oath which we swore unto them. And the Princes said unto them, let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the* Congregation, &c, Yet the Lord had commanded that they should be utterly cut off and destroyed, as *Deut.* 7.1.2.16. *When the Lord thy God shall bring thee into the Land whether thou goest to possesse it, and hath cast out many Nations before thee &c. seven Nations greater and mightier then thou. And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee, thou shalt smite them and utterly destroy them, thou shalt make no Covenant with them nor shew mercy unto them and thou shalt consume all the people which the Lord thy God shall deliver thee, thine eye shall have no pitty upon them, neither shalt thou serve their gods, for that will be a snare unto thee,&c.*

Yet durst not *Joshua* destroy them because of his oath,*&c.* And afterwards the Lord brought three years famine in the dayes of *David* for *Sauls* Bloody house. In slaying the *Gibeonites*; And would not be appeased but by satisfying the *Gibeonites* which was done by hanging seven of *Sauls* Sons, 2 *Sam.*21.1.to the 6.

And *King.*2.6.13.to the 23. there is a Remarkable passage of mercy Captives in time of misery where the King of *Israel* said unto *Elisha* the Prophet concerning the *Syreans* taken p isoners, *my father shall I smite them, shall I smite them,* And be answered *thou sha't not smite them, wouldst thou smite them, whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword. And with thy bow, set bread and water before them that they may eat & drink. And go to their master, & he prepared great provision for them, and when they had eaten and drank he sent them Away, and they went to their master*, I could have wisht it had been so done to the poor Scots that were brought here to *London*, *see the Armies of Syria came no more into the Land of Israel*, see what kindness, and mercy wrought upon them, this is the way to please God and purchase peace and love, and unite the Nations, And not to render evil for evil but to follow that which is good, *Deut.* 32.35. *to me saith the Lord belongeth vengeance and recompence*, and *Prov.*25.21. *If thine enemy be hungry give him bread to eat, and if he be thirsty give him water to*

drink

drink for thou shalt heap up coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward thee, compare with Rom. 12. 17. to the 21. *Recompence to no man evil for evil provide things honest in the sight of all men if it be possible as much as lies in you, live peaceably with all men, dearly beloved, avenge not your selves, but rather give place unto wrath, for it is written vengeance is mine I will repay it saith the Lord, therefore if thine enemy hunger feed him, if he thirst give him drink for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head, be not overcome of evil but overcome evil with good*, &c.

Again when the Lord saith, *Eccl.* 5.4.5. *when thou vowest a vow unto God*, as you have done many times, *defer not to pay it for he hath no pleasure in fools, pay that which thou hast vowed; Better is it that thou wouldst not vow, then that thou shouldst vow and not pay*, &c. Consider these things I could not but commit to your honours consideration, and the Lord give you understanding and a heart to do according to the engagements, that the wrath of the Lord break not forth against this poor bleeding Nation to the utter ruine and destruction thereof, for breach of vows and Covenants, for I fear because of oathes the Land mourneth, And *Jer.* 48.10. *cursed be he that doth the work of the Lord deceitfully*, And *Nehemiah* 5.9. to the 15. the Prophet reproved the Nobles and the Rulers for their usury oppression exhorting them to restore their evil gotten goods, as vers. 11. which they promised to do, verse 12. upon which the Prophet shook his lap and said *so God shake out every man from his house, and from his Labour that performeth this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied and all the Congregation said Amen, and praised the Lord, and the people did according to this premise*, &c.

But so have not you come short of this to the dishonour to God, and the shame and reproach of this Nation, and instead of performing that promises you flew upon the spoil like *Saul-Sam.* 1.15.13. to the 19. &c. And I believe God hath, and will shake many of you until ye repent for the Lord is overturning, As *Eze.* 21.27. *I will overturn overturn, overturn it, and it shall be no more until he come whose right it is, and I will give it him*, thus committing you to the most blessed guidance of the Almighty God I rest your honours and the Nations faithful Servant.

E.D.

This letter was delivered to the Lord Gen. *Cromwel* but never any answer given.